

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 3, 9, 14-15, 26-27, 35-37, 45-46, 56-58 and 67, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please AMEND the claims as indicated below:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:
dynamically maintaining a plurality of organizational profiles
containing business rules, a plurality of users each being associated with a particular organizational profile; and
implementing a user requested transaction on a shared executable hosted e-procurement system with an application system by using the business rules stored in an organizational profile associated with the user.
2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the business rules include workflow rules in which approval is sought from multiple parties in a sequence.
3. (CANCELED)
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the application ~~systems are~~ system is a financial systems system.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the business rules store information on integration preferences determining how the shared executable hosted e-procurement system interacts with the application system for a specific user or organizational profile.
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:
dynamically maintaining a plurality of organizational profiles containing data definitions, a plurality of users each being associated with a particular organizational profile; and

implementing a user requested transaction on a shared executable hosted e-procurement system with an application system by using ~~the~~ a data definition stored in an organizational profile associated with the user.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the used data definition comprises user defined field values.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein the implementing includes executing a particular routine for the used data definition and uses the user defined field values.

9. (CANCELED)

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:
dynamically maintaining a plurality of organizational profiles associated with users, each profile including business rules that include characteristics and approvers for those characteristics; and

~~upon receiving, by a shared executable hosted e-procurement system, from a user a purchase request associated with purchase characteristics that match the characteristics of the profile corresponding to~~ associated with the user; and,

automatically seeking approval, by the shared executable hosted e-procurement system, from the approvers for the characteristics of the profile.

11. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the characteristics comprise product categories.

12. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the characteristics comprise dollar amount ranges.

13. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the business rules include workflow rules in which approval is sought for multiple parties in a sequence.

14. (CANCELED)

15. (CANCELED)
16. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising implementing the purchase request with a selected application system among a plurality of application systems.
17. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising modifying the business rules using an organizational profile editor which modifies the organizational profile containing the business rules.
18. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 17, wherein the modified business rules are used in the implementing without a need for recompiling a program which implements the business rules.
19. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein multiple organizational profiles are maintained for multiple users simultaneously.
20. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein each user is associated with one organizational profile.
21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising transmitting transaction information by the shared executable hosted e-procurement system to one of a plurality of application systems, after all seeked approvers consent to the purchase.
22. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 21, wherein the application systems are financial systems.
23. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 22, wherein financial systems comprise applications used to track and manage financial resources.
24. (ORIGINAL) A method as in claim 22, further comprising transmitting purchase information to a supplier for the purchase after the financial system indicates a financial approval for the purchase.
25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:

dynamically maintaining a plurality of organizational profiles associated with users, each profile including business rules that include characteristics and approvers for those characteristics;

~~upon receiving, by a shared executable hosted e-procurement system,~~ from a user a purchase request associated with purchase characteristics that match the characteristics of the profile ~~corresponding to~~associated with the user;

automatically seeking approval, by the shared executable hosted e-procurement system, from the approvers for the characteristics of the profile;

modifying the business rules using an organizational profile editor which modifies the organizational profile including the business rules; and

transmitting financial information, by the shared executable hosted e-procurement system, to one of a plurality of financial systems after all seeked approvers consent to the purchase,

wherein the characteristics comprise product categories and dollar amount ranges,

wherein the business rules include workflow rules in which approval is sought for multiple parties in a sequence,

wherein the method is performed by the shared executable hosted e-procurement system ~~a resource management platform~~ for a plurality of applications systems using one ~~executable of the e-procurement system,~~

wherein the applications systems comprise financial systems;

wherein the one executable comprises a single executable program running in memory on the shared executable hosted e-procurement system;

wherein the modified business rules are used in the implementing without a need for recompiling a program which implements the business rules,

wherein multiple organizational profiles are maintained for multiple users simultaneously,

wherein each user is associated with one organizational profile,

wherein the financial system comprises an application used to track and manage financial resources.

26. (CANCELED)

27. (CANCELED)

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:

storing a plurality of organizational profiles containing business rules as objects, the business rules comprising product categories and approvers for the respective categories, a plurality of users being associated with the plurality of organizational profiles; and

~~executing a process implementing the plurality of stored business rules associated with the stored objects~~, on one executable of an a shared executable hosted e-procurement system, the one executable being shared by the plurality of users, the process being executed to implement a user requested transaction in accordance with the business rules of the organizational profile to which the respective user is associated.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:

dynamically maintaining a plurality of organizational profiles containing integration preferences, a plurality of users each being associated with a particular organizational profile; and

using a shared executable hosted system to implement a user requested transaction with an application system using the integration preferences stored in the organizational profile associated with the user, to thereby implement the user requested transaction in accordance with the integration preferences stored in the organizational profile associated with the user.

30. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as recited in claim 29, wherein the application ~~systems are~~ system is a financial systems ~~system~~.

31. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 30, wherein a financial system is a system used to track and manage financial resources.

32. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable storage medium, storing a program instructing a computer to perform a method comprising:

dynamically maintaining a plurality of organizational profiles containing data structures, a plurality of users each being associated with a particular organizational profile; and

implementing a user requested transaction on a shared executable hosted e-procurement system with an application system by using information from the data structures stored in an organizational profile associated with the user.

33. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 32, wherein the data structures store business rules.

34. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 33, wherein the business rules include workflow rules in which approval is sought from multiple parties in a sequence.
35. (CANCELED)
36. (CANCELED)
37. (CANCELED)
38. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 32, wherein the application ~~systems are~~ system is a financial systems ~~system.~~
39. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 38, wherein a financial system is a system used to track and manage financial resources.
40. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 32, wherein the data structures store information on requisition preferences.
41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable storage medium, storing a program to instruct a computer to perform a method comprising:
 dynamically maintaining a plurality of organizational profiles associated with users, each profile including business rules that include characteristics and approvers for those characteristics; ~~and~~
 ~~upon receiving, by a shared executable hosted e-procurement system,~~ from a user a purchase request associated with purchase characteristics that match the characteristics of the profile ~~corresponding to~~ associated with the respective user; and,
 automatically seeking approval from the approvers for the characteristics of the profile associated with the respective user.
42. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 41, wherein the characteristics comprise product categories.

43. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 41, wherein the characteristics comprise dollar amount ranges.
44. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 41, wherein the business rules include workflow rules in which approval is sought for multiple parties in a sequence.
45. (CANCELED)
46. (CANCELED)
47. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 41, further comprising implementing the purchase request with a selected application system among a plurality of application systems.
48. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 41, further comprising modifying the business rules using an organizational profile editor which modifies the organizational profile containing the business rules.
49. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 48, wherein the modified business rules are used in the implementing without a need for recompiling a program which implements the business rules.
50. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 41, wherein multiple organizational profiles are maintained for multiple users simultaneously.
51. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 50, wherein each user is associated with one organizational profile.
52. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 41, further comprising transmitting transaction information to one of a plurality of application systems, after all seeked approvers consent to the purchase.
53. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 52, wherein the

application systems are financial systems.

54. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 53, wherein financial systems comprise applications used to track and manage financial resources.

55. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 53, further comprising transmitting purchase information to a supplier for the purchase after the financial system indicates a financial approval for the purchase.

56. (CANCELED)

57. (CANCELED)

58. (CANCELED)

59. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable storage medium, storing a program instructing a computer to perform a method comprising:

dynamically maintaining a plurality of organizational profiles containing integration preferences, a plurality of users each being associated with a particular organizational profile; and

using a shared executable hosted system, in which a respective executable is shared by the plurality of user, to implement a user requested transaction with an application system using the integration preferences stored in the organizational profile associated with the respective user.

60. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 59, wherein the application ~~systems are~~system is a financial system~~system.~~

61. (ORIGINAL) A computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 60, wherein a financial system is a system used to track and manage financial resources.

62. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus comprising:

a storage device storing a plurality of dynamically maintained organizational profiles associated with users, each profile including business rules that include characteristics and

approvers for those characteristics; and

a processor, upon receiving from a user a purchase request associated with purchase characteristics that match the characteristics of the profile corresponding to the user, automatically seeking approval from the approvers for the characteristics of the profile by executing a respective executable shared by each of the users.

63. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 62, wherein the characteristics comprise product categories.

64. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 62, wherein the characteristics comprise dollar amount ranges.

65. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 62, wherein the business rules include workflow rules, which comprises multiple parties in which sequential consent is required during the implementing.

66. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 62, wherein the processor runs on a hosted e-procurement system.

67. (CANCELED)

68. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 62, wherein multiple organizational profiles are maintained for multiple users simultaneously.

69. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 62, wherein each user is associated with one organizational profile.

70. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 62, further comprising a transmitting unit transmitting purchase information to one of a plurality of application systems, after all sought approvers consent to the purchase.

71. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus is in claim 70, wherein application systems are financial systems.

72. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as in claim 71, wherein financial systems comprise applications used to track and manage financial resources.
73. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus comprising:
a plurality of users, each user associated with a respective organizational profile of a plurality of dynamically maintained organizational profiles;
a plurality of application systems which perform transactions; and
a shared executable hosted e-procurement system storing the plurality of organizational profiles, and implementing a purchase request by a user with a selected application system using the organizational profile associated with the user.
74. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 73, wherein the organizational profiles contain business rules.
75. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus as recited in claim 74, wherein the business rules also include workflow rules in which approval is sought from multiple parties in a sequence.
76. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus as recited in claim 73, wherein the organizational profiles contain integration preferences determining how the shared executable hosted e-procurement system interacts with the selected application system for a specific user or organizational profile.
77. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 73, wherein the organizational profiles contain accounting codes.
78. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus comprising:
a storage unit storing a plurality of dynamically maintained organizational profiles, each organizational profile associated with any number of different users; and
a processing unit implementing a shared executable hosted e-procurement system, the processing unit receiving a purchase request from a user and implementing the purchase request with a selected application system of a plurality of application systems using the stored organizational profile associated with the user.
79. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 78, wherein the organizational

profiles contain business rules.

80. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus as recited in claim 79, wherein the business rules contain workflow rules in which approval is sought from multiple parties in a sequence.

81. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus as recited in claim 78, wherein the organizational profiles contain integration preferences determining how the e-procurement system interacts with respective application systems for a specific user or organization.

82. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 78, wherein the organizational profiles contain accounting codes.

83. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus comprising:
a storage unit storing a plurality of dynamically maintained organizational profiles containing data structures, a plurality of users each being associated with a particular organizational profile; and
a processing unit implementing a hosted e-procurement system, the processing unit receiving a user requested transaction and implementing the transaction with an application system by using information from the data structures stored in an organizational profile associated with the user.

84. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 83, wherein the data structures store business rules.

85. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus as recited in claim 84, wherein the business rules include workflow rules in which approval is sought from multiple parties in sequence.

86. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 83, wherein the hosted e-procurement system is a shared executable hosted e-procurement system.

87. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 86, wherein the data structures store business rules.

88. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 87, wherein the business rules

include workflow rules in which approval is sought from multiple parties in sequence.

89. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus as recited in claim 83, wherein the application ~~systems are~~system is a financial ~~systems~~system.

90. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 89, wherein a financial system is a system used to track and manage financial resources.

91. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus as recited in claim 83, wherein the data structures store information on requisition preferences.

92. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus as recited in claim 83, wherein the application system is selected from a plurality of application systems.